Athletics department to look into robbery claim

By Aaron Mackey
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The UA athletics department is investigating UA men's basketball team members' involvement in an alleged vending machine theft in a Kansas hotel on Saturday.

Team spokesman Richard Paige confirmed that the department was further investigating the alleged incident, but declined to give specifics.

"Student discipline falls under the same umbrella as academics, and we can't comment on student privacy issues," Paige said.

According to Lt. David Cobb of the Lawrence Police Department, Stuart Schwartz of Chicago said he witnessed three UA players steal 80 candy bars and almost $100 from a Marriott Spring Hill Suites vending machine.

Schwartz told police he knew who the athletes were because he witnessed another incident involving UA basketball in a Kansas hotel.

Cobb said all athletes denied any involvement in what UA head coach Lute Olson called "horseshit." Under Kansas law, the official report from the Lawrence Police Department cannot be released, although Cobb said that no further action would be taken because the hotel declined to press charges.

Olson said Tuesday during his weekly press conference, that the team's lawyers would be contacting the Marriott Spring Hill Suites in Lawrence, Kan. in addition to a possible lawsuit, the $80 restitution UA assistant coach and co-author of Sex Talk, a Campus Health-sponsored advice column on relationships and sex.

"College is a time to re-invent yourself and try new things; many people don't want to be tied down," she said.

The time factor involved in nurturing a relationship can often add additional stress to the sometimes overwhelming life of a student.

"Relationships take a lot of time to work. Some people just want to have fun in college, and this is the time to do it," said Lee Ann Hamilton, health educator and co-author of Sex Talk, a Campus Health-sponsored advice column on relationships and sex.

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The witness did know the Walton person. He wasn't as sure about the other," Cobb said.

Both athletes denied any involvement in what UA head coach Lute Olson called "horseshit." Under Kansas law, the official report from the Lawrence Police Department cannot be released, although Cobb said that no further action would be taken because the hotel declined to press charges.

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